

At the same meeting, the Council also decided to extend invitations, under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, to a delegation of the United Nations Council for Namibia led by the President of that body.

At its 2796th meeting, on 8 March 1988, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Somalia to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the question.

At its 2799th meeting, on 16 March 1988, the Council proceeded with the discussion of the item entitled "The question of South Africa: letter dated 15 March 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/19624)".³¹

Resolution 610 (1988) of 16 March 1988

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 503 (1982) of 9 April 1982, 525 (1982) of 7 December 1982, 533 (1983) of 7 June 1983 and 547 (1984) of 13 January 1984 in which, *inter alia*, it expressed its grave concern that the Pretoria régime's practice of sentencing to death and executing its opponents has adverse consequences on the search for a peaceful resolution of the South African situation,

Gravely concerned at the deteriorating situation in South Africa, the worsening human suffering resulting from the *apartheid* system and, *inter alia*, the South African régime's renewed state of emergency, its imposition on 24 February 1988 of severe restrictions on eighteen anti-*apartheid* and labour organizations and eighteen individuals committed to peaceful forms of struggle and the harassment and detention of church leaders on 29 February, all of which further undermine the possibilities of a peaceful resolution of the South African situation,

Having considered the question of the death sentences passed on 12 December 1985 in South Africa on Mojalefa Reginald Sefatsa, Reid Malebo Mokoena, Oupa Moses Diniso, Theresa Ramashamola, Duma Joseph Khumalo and Francis Don Mokhesi, known as the Sharpeville Six, as well as the decision to execute them on Friday, 18 March 1988,

Conscious that the Court proceedings of the Sharpeville Six show that none of the six young South Africans convicted of murder was found by the Court to have caused the actual death of the Councillor and that they were convicted of murder and sentenced to death only because the Court found that they had a "common purpose" with the actual perpetrators,

Deeply concerned at the Pretoria régime's decision to execute the Sharpeville Six on Friday, 18 March 1988, in defiance of world-wide appeals,

Convinced that these executions, if carried out, will further inflame an already grave situation in South Africa,

1. *Calls upon* the South African authorities to stay execution and commute the death sentences imposed on the Sharpeville Six;

2. *Urges* all States and organizations to use their influence and take urgent measures, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, the resolutions of the Security Council and relevant international instruments, to save the lives of the Sharpeville Six.

Adopted unanimously at the 2799th meeting.

Decision

At its 2817th meeting, on 17 June 1988, the Council proceeded with the discussion of the item entitled "The question of South Africa: letter dated 16 June 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zambia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/19939)".³³

Resolution 615 (1988) of 17 June 1988

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 503 (1982) of 9 April 1982, 525 (1982) of 7 December 1982, 533 (1983) of 7 June 1983, 547 (1984) of 13 January 1984 and 610 (1988) of 16 March 1988 in which, *inter alia*, it expressed its grave concern that the Pretoria régime's practice of sentencing to death and executing its opponents has adverse consequences on the search for a peaceful resolution of the South African situation,

Gravely concerned at the deteriorating situation in South Africa, the worsening human suffering resulting from the *apartheid* system and, *inter alia*, the South African régime's renewed state of emergency on 9 June 1988, its imposition on 24 February 1988 of severe restrictions on eighteen anti-*apartheid* and labour organizations and eighteen individuals committed to peaceful forms of struggle and the harassment and detention of church leaders on 29 February, all of which further undermine the possibilities of a peaceful resolution of the South African situation,

Having considered the question of the death sentences passed on 12 December 1985 in South Africa on Mojalefa Reginald Sefatsa, Reid Malebo Mokoena, Oupa Moses Diniso, Theresa Ramashamola, Duma Joseph Khumalo and Francis Don Mokhesi, known as the Sharpeville Six, as well as the decision to execute them,

Conscious that the Court proceedings of the Sharpeville Six show that none of the six young South Africans convicted of murder was found by the Court to have caused

³³ See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1988.*